GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
REORGANISATION OF C.I.W.T.C
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drafted a package of reorganisation for the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial provisions made for this purpose;

(d) whether the Government propose to open inland water transport sector to private sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) : A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.458 FOR AUGUST, 2001 RAISED BY SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL REGARDING REORGANISATION OF C.I.W.T.C.

(a),(b)& (c) : Yes, Sir. Government have approved a packagpe for re-organisation of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation (CIWTC) Ltd., Calcutta. The re-organisation plan includes the following :-

(i) The Workforce is required to reach an optimum level of 1400 employees and an amount of Rs.27.07 crore will be provided for implementing VRS in 3 years.

(ii) Both Deep Sea Ship Repair (DSSR) and Rajabagan Dockyard(RBD) Divisions will be closed. Essential staff of 45 employees is to be retained from DSSR for maintenance jobs. They would be considered as an integral part of River Services Division (RSD).

(iii) In all budgetary support of Rs.76.35 crore will be provided for implementing the rehabilitation package. However, CIWTC may be given total budgetary support of Rs.116.22 crore and budgetary support released in excess of Rs.76.35 crore, i.e., Rs.39.67 crore will be refunded by CIWTC to the Government on realization of Sale of assets.

(iv) CIWTCwill enter into a back to back arrangement with road transport agencies and examine further the feasibility for such an arrangement with rail transport so as to facilitate user agencies like `SAIL` and `FCI` getting a `one stop` service.

(v) Govt. of India Loan (plan and non-plan) together with interest amounting to Rs.425.98 crore as on 31.3.2000 is to be written off.

(vi) Roll back the retirement age from 60 to 58 years.

(vii) Central Inland Water Transport Corporation(CIWTC) andMinistry of Shipping will enter into a MOU on the revenue and expenditure projection for the 4 year Re-organisation period which will be monitored by the Ministry.

(d)&(e) Yes, Sir. Inland Water Transportation is now open to private sector. The Government have formulated a policy package for private sector participation in Inland Water Transport Sector. The salient features of this policy are as follows :-

-• Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to enter into joint ventures with private sector;

-• Equity participation upto a maximum of 40% by Govt. in BOT projects;

-• Tax exemption as available in infrastructure sector is available for investments in this sector;

-• Enhancement in depreciation rate for inland vessels at par with the rate applicable to ocean going vessels;

-• Vessels Building Subsidy of 30% is available for ship owners for inland vessels built in Indian Shipyards; and

-• Levying of minimum customs duty on imported equipment and machinery for the development of inland waterways is proposed.